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The Civil Engineer's Mega Bookmark:  
9(9): Biographies of Some Famous Civil Engineers  
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A Selection of Some Famous Civil Engineers

<a href="#">Isambard Kingdom Brunel</a>  <b>1806 - 1859</b>	"Brunel was the mastermind behind the Great Western Railway, that linked London to the West Country. He was the engineering giant whose suspension bridge straddles the gorge at Clifton in Bristol. His father, Sir Marc Isambard Brunel, was the innovative and daring engineer, who first built a tunnel under the Thames River. A tunnel that is still used today as part of the London underground network..."
<a href="#">Gustave Alexandre Eiffel</a>  <b>1832 - 1923</b>	"The Eiffel Tower was built for the 1889 Universal Exposition (World's Fair) and for the centennial of the French Revolution. Eiffel startled the world with the construction of the Eiffel Tower (1887-89), which brought him the nickname "magician of iron". It also directed his interest to problems of aerodynamics, and he used the tower for a number of experiments..."
<a href="#">François Hennebique</a>  <b>1842 - 1921</b>	"French engineer who devised the technique of construction with reinforced concrete. He began with reinforced-concrete floor slabs in 1879 and progressed to a complete building system, patented in 1892...Within a few years he had perfected a system, still in general use, for reinforcing columns, beams, and floors, which he demonstrated in the construction of an apartment building in Paris..."
	"The aim of Professor Leonhardt and his collaborators has always been to design aesthetically pleasing bridges, and the

<a href="#">Fritz Leonhardt</a>  <b>1909 - 1999</b>	<p>experience of more than 40 years of professional work on this subject is documented in this book with the text in both German and English: Leonhardt, F.: Brücken, Ästhetik und Gestaltung - Bridges, Aesthetics and Design, Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt, Stuttgart, 1982. In the U.S.: The MIT Press, 28 Carlton Street, Cambridge, Mass 02142..."</p>
<a href="#">John MacAdam</a>  <b>1756 - 1836</b>	<p>"Scottish inventor of the macadam road surface. He recommended that roads should be raised above the adjacent ground for good drainage and covered, first with large rocks, and then with smaller stones, the whole mass to be bound with fine gravel or slag... Macadamization of roads did much to facilitate travel and communication....By the end of the 19th century, most of the main roads in Europe were built in this way.</p>
<a href="#">Robert Maillart</a>  <b>1872 - 1940</b>	<p>"Swiss bridge engineer whose radical use of reinforced concrete concrete revolutionized masonry arch bridge design. For 40 years he has emellished the Swiss Alps with a variety of graceful arches, of which perhaps the most famous is the curving Schwandbach Bridge, at Schwarzenburg, which has been described as "a work of art in modern engineering." Maillart also built many other structures, including a number of factories and warehouses in Russia between 1912-1919..."</p>
<a href="#">John Rennie</a>  <b>1761 - 1821</b>	<p>"John Rennie was a famous bridge-builder. This included Leeds Bridge, Southwark Bridge and Waterloo Bridge. Rennie was also responsible for designing and building docks at Hull, Liverpool, Greenock and Leith and improving the harbours and dockyards at Portsmouth, Chatham and Plymouth. Rennie's last project was London Bridge but it was unfinished when he died in 1821. The bridge was completed by his son, John Rennie."</p>
<a href="#">John Augustus Roebling</a>  <b>1806 - 1869</b>	<p>"German-born U.S. civil engineer, a pioneer in the design of steel suspension bridges. His best known work is the Brooklyn Bridge, New York City, completed under the direction of his eldest son, Washington Augustus, in 1883. He developed his own method for stranding and weaving wire cables, which proved to be as strong and durable as he had predicted. The demand for such cable soon became so great that he established a factory which was the beginning of an industrial</p>

	complex....carried on by three generations of Roeblings...."
<a href="#">David Barnard Steinman</a>  <b>1886 - 1960</b>	"American engineer whose studies of air-flow wind velocity helped make possible the design of aerodynamically stable bridges. Steinman's thesis for his Ph.D. from Colombia University (1911) was published as "The Design of the Henry Hudson Memorial Bridge as a Steel Arch, and more than 20 years later he built the bridge he had planned over the Harlem River. Steinman designed more than 400 bridges, for instance Sidney Harbor Bridge in Australia, and he is the author of "Bridges and Their Builders 1941, revised 1957."
<a href="#">Robert Stephenson</a>  <b>1803 - 1859</b>	"Robert Stephenson was an outstanding English Victorian civil engineer and builder of many long-span railroad bridges, most notably the Britannia Bridge over the Menai Strait, Nort Wales. He was the only son of George Stephenson, inventor of the railroad locomotive. Stephenson conceived a unique tubular design, the success of which led to several other tubular bridges built by Stephenson in England and other countries..."
<a href="#">Thomas Telford</a>  <b>1757 - 1834</b>	"Thomas Telford was one of the greatest of the early civil engineers. His Holyhead Road, opened in 1826, crossed both by means of similar iron bridges. Though they use metal links (right) instead of cables, they are widely considered to be the first "modern" suspension bridges. Besides, he improved and built canals to meet the threat of railway competitions. One of the works is Gotha Canal in Sweden. Telford was the first president of the Institution of Civil Engineers..."

**Valuable web sites:**

[STRUCTURAE](#) - International Database and Gallery of Structures   

"It is provided as a free service to engineers, as well as teachers and students of structural engineering. This site contains contemporary and historical information on works of structural engineering and their designers, and firms that constructed them. The intention is to provide a broad overview of structures and as much technical information as reasonable. Furthermore there is a virtual library of printed (books and journals) and internet resources."

[British History 1700-1900: Scientists and Engineers](#) :

From The Spartacus Internet Encyclopedia : <http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/>

**Literature Tips:**

*Biographical dictionary of the history of technology / ed.by Lance Day and Ian McNeil, London : Routledge 1996, 844 pp., 0-415-06042-7 (pbk) 0-415-19399-0*

*Bridges and their builders by David B. Steinman & Sara Ruth Watson, New York : Dover, 1941, revised 1957, 401 pp.*

*Engineering in history / by Richard Shelton Kirby ..., New York : Dover, 1990, 530 pp., (Orig. published: New York: McGraw-Hill, 1956), 0-486-26412-2 (pbk)*

*The history of civil engineering since 1600 : an annotated bibliography / Darwin H. Stapleton, New York : Garland, 1986, 232 pp., 0-8240-8948-0*

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